(c) A decision in this regard will be taken after finalisation of the 8th Five Year Plan.

Maharashtra Karnataka border issue

*314. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a request from Covernment of Maharashtra for holding public opinion poll in border areas of Maharashtra and Karnataka to resolve the long pending border dispute; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): (a) In early 1989, the Government of Maharashtra had suggested holding of Opinion Poll to resolve the dispute. This was reiterated by the Chief Minister, Maharashtra in his letter dated 29-10-1990 addressed to the then Home Minister.

(b) The Central Government is of the view that the problem is to be settled primarily by the concerned States by mutual consultation.

Allotment of Petrol pumps to handicapped persons

*315. SHRI RAM NARESH YADAV: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the handicapped persons are allotted L.P.G. agencies and petrol/diesel retail outlets; and

(b) if so, the number of such persons who have been allotted such agencies in Uttar Pradesh during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 6 Retail Outlets were awarded to handicapped persons in U.P. during the last two years, i.e. 1989-90 1990-91.

Control of noise pollution

*316. SHRI M. VINCENT: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to lay down norms for the control of noise pollution; and

(b) whether the noise pollution from vehicles is proposed to be controlled as per international norms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Yes, Sir, Ambient air quality standards in respect of noise for different categories of areas have been notified under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 and under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. Noise limits have been prescribed for automobiles, domestic appliances and construction equipment to be adopted at the manufacturing stage. Noise limits for automobiles have to be met by 31st December, 1992 while those for appliances and equipment are to be met by 31st December, 1993. State Governments have been asked to restrict and minimise the noise pollution, particularly for places like hospitals, schools, courts etc. There was agreement on this in the recent meeting of Environment Ministers of State Governments and Lieutinant Governors of Union Territories.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Hussain Sagar and Jeedimetla areas in Hyderabad

*317. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Australian Government has offered assistance to